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October 27, 1905

Yellow-fever death—Clean bill of health given by health authorities to cattle ship bound for Cuba.

October 2, 1905. Another yellow-fever death occurred on the 29th ultimo. This is the case reported on the 25th ultimo by the government surgeon.

A decree was proclaimed in the streets of this port on the 30th ultimo, declaring that there was no yellow fever in the port, and that traffic would be opened on October 1. Also, on the 27th ultimo, a decree was proclaimed enjoining the cleaning of all premises for inspection on the 2d instant. Several fines have been imposed on persons whose premises would not pass inspection.

A cattle ship was cleared from this port for Cuba, with cargo of cattle, on the 30th ultimo, and was given a clean bill of health by the authorities here; also by the Cuban consul, who is likewise collector of customs at this port and secretary of the board of health.

As the last case occurred here on the 25th and died on the 29th ultimo, there will probably be other cases as soon as the traffic is opened up with the interior. The work that has been done as well as that now being done is not satisfactory, as it is very difficult to keep the tanks and water retainers oiled and empty.

Sporadic cases of yellow fever reported from Choloma and San Pedro.

October 6, 1905. The situation here at present is as follows:

Puerto Cortez, no cases of yellow fever on hand. The last case died on the 29th ultimo. Choloma, 3 cases, 2 old and 1 new. San Pedro, 3 cases, 2 old and 1 new.

These new cases occurring in Choloma and San Pedro are all due to the return of the refugees from the mountains, and these sporadic cases will probably continue to occur until cold weather sets in.

General disinfection at Puerto Cortez—Regulations in regard to railroad travel.

October 12, 1905. A general disinfection was performed at this port on October 9, and was fairly successful. This disinfection was done under the supervision of the government physician and myself, and after the following manner: Sulphur was distributed to every house and office in town during the forenoon with the proper instructions. At 4 o'clock p. m. a gun was fired and disinfection was begun. It lasted four hours. After the gun was fired a house-to-house inspection was made by the government physician to see that every house was being disinfected. The result was that nearly every house in the city was disinfected at the same time. As far as I know there were only two or three exceptions, and these were disinfected next day.

The cleaning of yards, cutting of grass, cleaning of streets, and oiling of water holes, ponds, etc., is going on, and the town will be cleaned again for the third time. This work is being done under the supervision of the superintendent of the railroad. Trains are being handled by immune crews who are not allowed to have any communication with the towns they pass through. Although this port was declared open on October 1, no passengers are being carried through or allowed to enter the towns along the line except immunes, who must have permission from the boards of health of the towns to enter.